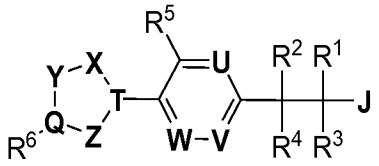
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of the claims which follows replaces any and all prior versions and/or listings of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A compound represented by Formula A:



A

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of: –H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl and C_{1-5}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl and C_{1-5}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH, C_{1-8}alkoxy and $-CO_2H$,

and any two of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of : phenyl~~,~~ and pyridinyl, ~~pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridizinyl and thienyl~~, each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NO_2$, phenyl, thienyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{2-4}acyloxy,

wherein said phenyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy are each optionally substituted from one up to

the maximum number of substitutable positions with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy~~, and~~

~~R^6 may be substituted on two adjacent atoms to form a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring of 9 to 12 atoms optionally containing one or two oxygen or sulfur groups, or both, and optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, and C_{1-4}alkyl~~;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy;

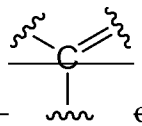
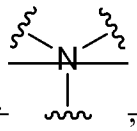
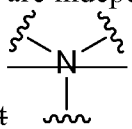
U, **V** and **W** are <u>each</u> ~~independently selected from the group consisting of:~~ ~~–C(R^9)- and -N-~~;

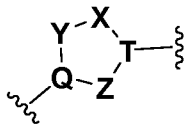
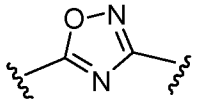
each R^9 is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy;

For **U** or **V**, R^9 and R^1 or R^9 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a ~~4 to 8~~ <u>5</u> membered ring, ~~optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen, sulfur or N(R^{10}) atoms,~~ thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of ~~8 to 12~~ <u>9</u> atoms with the 6-membered aromatic ring to which R^9 is attached;

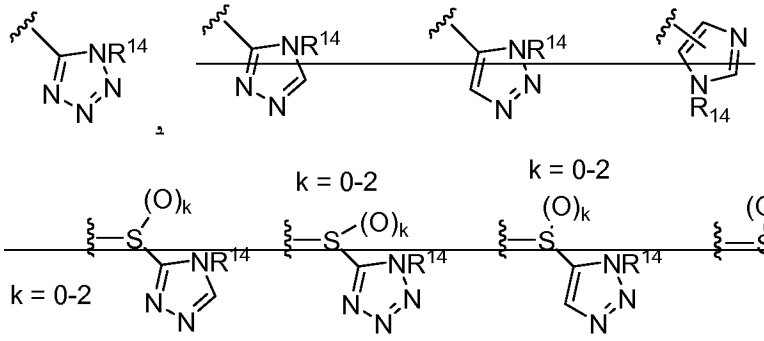
~~**X**, **Y** and **Z** are independently selected from –C(R^{11})=, -O-, -N=, -N(R^{12})- and -S- such that the resulting ring together with **Q** and **T** form an aromatic heterocycle;~~

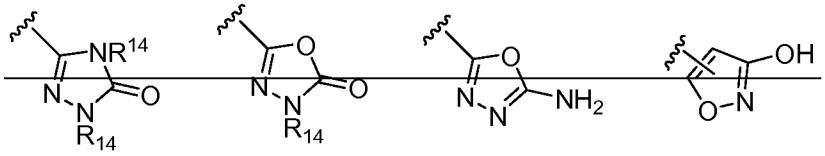
~~**Q** and **T** are independently selected from~~  ~~or~~  ~~, with the proviso that both **Q** and **T** are not~~ 

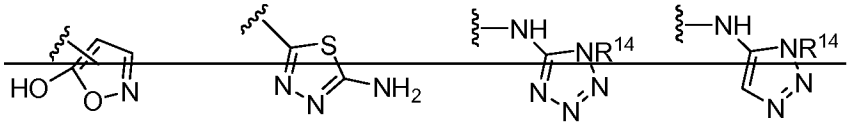
the ring  is  ;

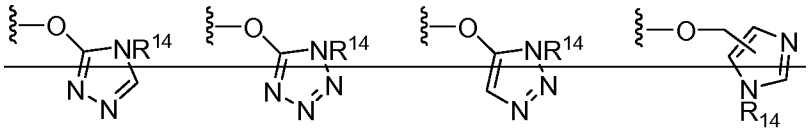
~~R^{10}, R^{11} and R^{12} are each independently~~is ~~selected from the group consisting of : H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: F, Cl, Br, I, OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy;~~

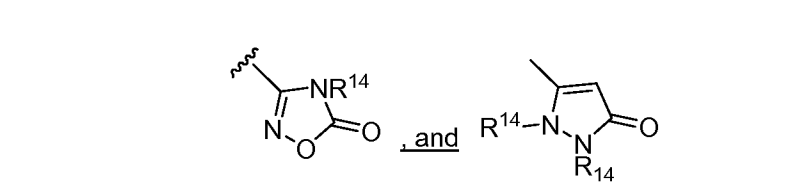
J is selected from the group consisting of: $-CO_2H$, ~~$-PO_3H_2$, $-PO_2H_2$, $-SO_3H$, $-CONHSO_2R^{13}$, $-PO(R^{13})OH$,~~

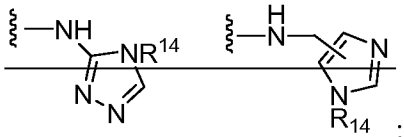










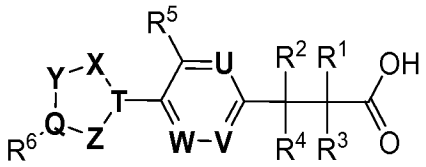


; and

~~R^{13} is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_4 alkyl, phenyl, $-CH_2OH$ and CH(OH)-phenyl; and~~

each R^{14} is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and $-CH_3$.

2. (Currently amended) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 represented by Formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of: –H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl and C_{1-5}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl and C_{1-5}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH, C_{1-8}alkoxy and $-CO_2H$,

and any two of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of : phenyl~~,~~ and pyridinyl~~, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridizinyl and thienyl,~~ each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, $-NR^7R^8$, $-NO_2$, phenyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{2-4}acyloxy,

wherein said phenyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy,

C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy~~, and~~

~~R^6 may be substituted on two adjacent atoms to form a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring of 9 to 12 atoms optionally containing one or two oxygen or sulfur groups, or both, and optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, and C_{1-4}alkyl~~;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy;

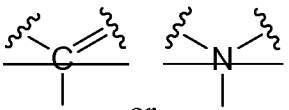
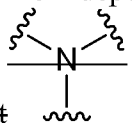
U, **V** and **W** are <u>each</u> ~~independently selected from the group consisting of: –C(R^9)- and –N-~~;

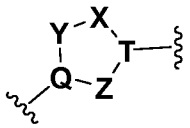
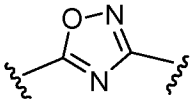
each R^9 is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy,

wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy;

For **U** or **V**, R^9 and R^1 or R^9 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a ~~4 to 8~~ <u>5</u> membered ring, ~~optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen, sulfur or N(R^{10}) atoms,~~ thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of ~~8 to 12~~ <u>9</u> atoms with the 6-membered aromatic ring to which R^9 is attached; <u>and</u>

~~**X**, **Y** and **Z** are independently selected from –C(R^{11})=, –O–, –N=, –N(R^{12})– and –S– such that the resulting ring together with **Q** and **T** form an aromatic heterocycle;~~

~~**Q** and **T** are independently selected from~~  ~~or~~  ~~, with the proviso that both **Q** and **T** are not~~

the ring  is  ; ~~and~~

~~R^{10}, R^{11} and R^{12} are each independently is selected from the group consisting of : -H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy~~.

3. (Original) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein R^5 is methyl.

4. (Original) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein R^6 is selected from the group consisting of : phenyl and pyridinyl, each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, -NR^7R^8, -NO_2, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy and C_{1-4}acyloxy,

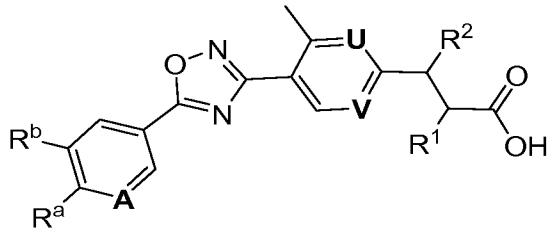
wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy and C_{1-4}acyloxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy; and

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl, wherein said C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{2-6}alkynyl are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy.

5. (Original) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein **V** and **W** are –CH-.

6. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 2 of Formula Ia



Ia

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -OH and methyl or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form cyclopropyl;

U and **V** are each ~~independently selected from the group consisting of:~~ –C(R^9)- ~~and –N-~~;

each R^9 is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -OH, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy, wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{2-4}alkynyl and C_{1-4}alkoxy are each optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-8}alkoxy, and

For **U** or **V**, R^9 and R^1 or R^9 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a 5 membered ring, thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of 9 atoms with the 6-membered aromatic ring to which R^9 is attached;

A is selected from the group consisting of: –N- and –C(R^{13})-, wherein R^{13} is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -CH_3, -OCH_3, -CF_3, ethynyl, -NO_2 and -NH_2;

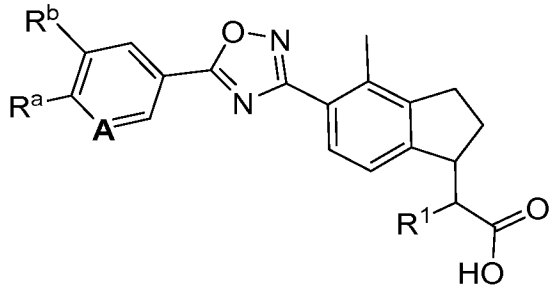
R^a is selected from the group consisting of: NR^7R^8, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy, wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I and -OH;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy; and

R^b is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, $-CH_3$, $-OCH_3$, $-CF_3$, ethynyl, $-NO_2$ and $-NH_2$.

7. (Original) A compound according to Claim 2 of Formula Ib



Ib

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -OH and methyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of: –N- and $-C(R^{13})-$, wherein R^{13} is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, $-CH_3$, $-OCH_3$, $-CF_3$, ethynyl, $-NO_2$ and $-NH_2$;

R^a is selected from the group consisting of: NR^7R^8, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy, wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio and C_{1-4}acyloxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I and -OH;

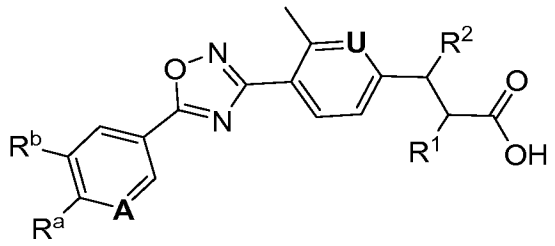
R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, optionally containing 1 or 2 oxygen atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: –F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH and C_{1-5}alkoxy; and

R^b is selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, $-CH_3$, $-OCH_3$, $-CF_3$, ethynyl, $-NO_2$ and $-NH_2$.

8 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 2 selected from the following table:



Ie

Ex.	R^a	R^b	**A**	**U**	R^2	R^1
1	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
2	*i*-PrO-	Cl-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
3	*i*-PrO-	Br-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
4	*i*-PrO-	MeO-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
5	*i*-PrO-	Me-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
6	*i*-PrO-	F-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
8	*i*-PrO-	$-CF_3$	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
9	*i*-PrO-	$-CF_3$	-CH=	=CH-	H	Me
10	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	Me
11	*i*-PrO-	-CH3	-CH=	=CH-	H	Me
12	*i*-PrO-	$-CF_3$	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H
13	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H
14	*i*-PrO-	-CH3	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H
15	*i*-PrO-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
16	*i*-Pr-NH-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
17	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
18	pyrrolidinyl	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
19	morpholin-4-yl	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
20	*i*-Pr-N(Me)-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
21	2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	Me	H

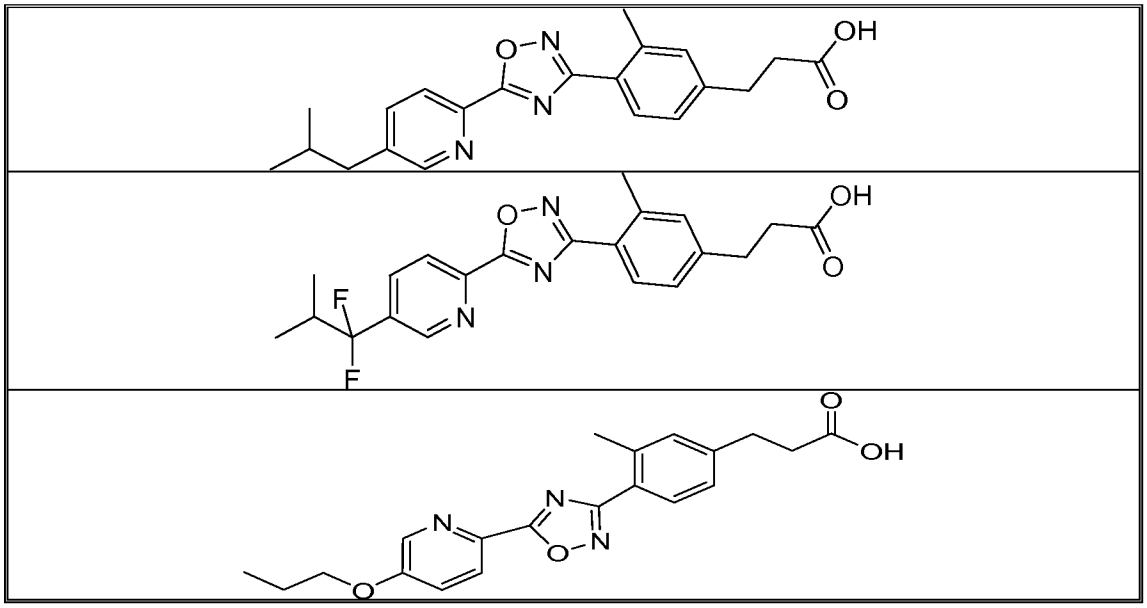
22	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	Me	H
23	3,3-difluoro piperidinyl	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	Me	H
24	3,3,-difluoro pyrrolidinyl	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	Me	H
25	morpholin-4-yl	$-CF_3$	-N=	=CH-	Me	H
26	3,3,-difluoro pyrrolidinyl	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
27	2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~ R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
28	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
29	1-Me-*n*-PrO-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
30	*i*-PrO-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
31	*i*-Bu-	Cl-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
32	*i*-Pr-N(Me)-	I-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
33	*i*-Pr-N(Me)-	-CN	-N=	=CH-	H	H
34	3,3,-difluoro pyrrolidinyl	I	-N=	=CH-	H	H
35	3,3,-difluoro pyrrolidinyl	-CN	-N=	=CH-	H	H
36	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
37	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
38	*i*-PrO-	MeO-	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
39	2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
40	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-trifluoromethyl	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	R^2 and ~~R^3~~R^1 joined to form cyclopropyl	

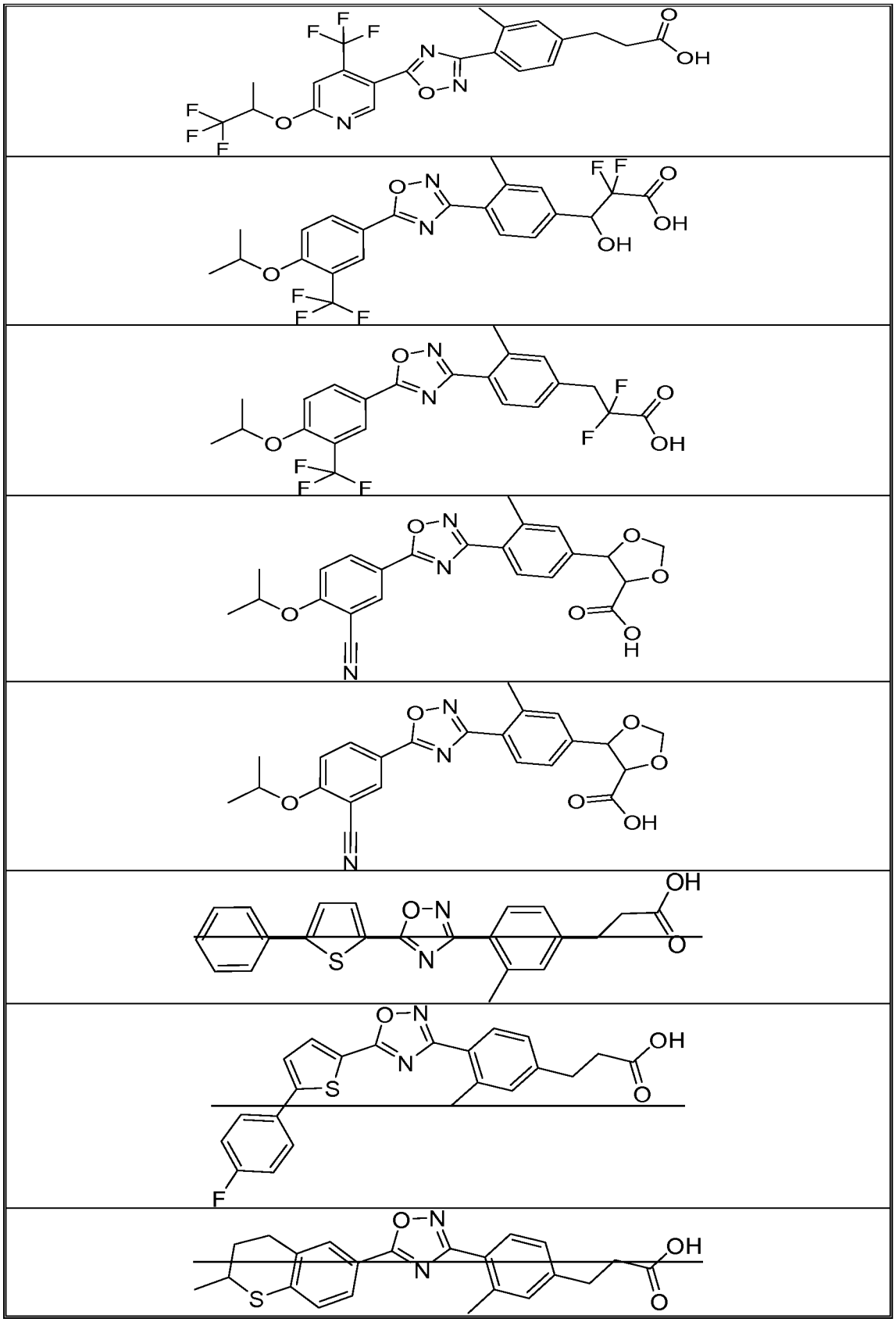
	ethoxy					
43	1-Me-*n*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	R2 and ~~R3~~R1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
44	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	-CN	-N=	=CH-	R2 and ~~R3~~R1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
45	*i*-PrO-	I	-N=	=CH-	R2 and ~~R3~~R1 joined to form cyclopropyl	
48	Ethoxy	-CN	-N=	=CH-	H	H
49	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	-CN	-N=	=CH-	H	H
50	2-Me-*n*-Pr-	-CN	-N=	=CH-	H	H
51	2-methyl-1,1-difluoro-*n*-propyl	H	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
52	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	I-	-N=	=CH-	H	H
53	Cyclopentyloxy	Cl-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
54	2-Me-*n*-PrO-	Cl-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
55	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
56	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	Cl-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
57	*i*-PrO-	Cl-	-C(Cl)=	=CH-	H	H
58	cyclopropylmethoxy	Cl-	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
60	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	$-NO_2$	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
61	2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
62	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-trifluoromethyl ethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
63	1-Me-*n*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
65	2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy	$-NH_2$	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
66	1-Me-*n*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H
67	2,2,2-trifluoro-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H

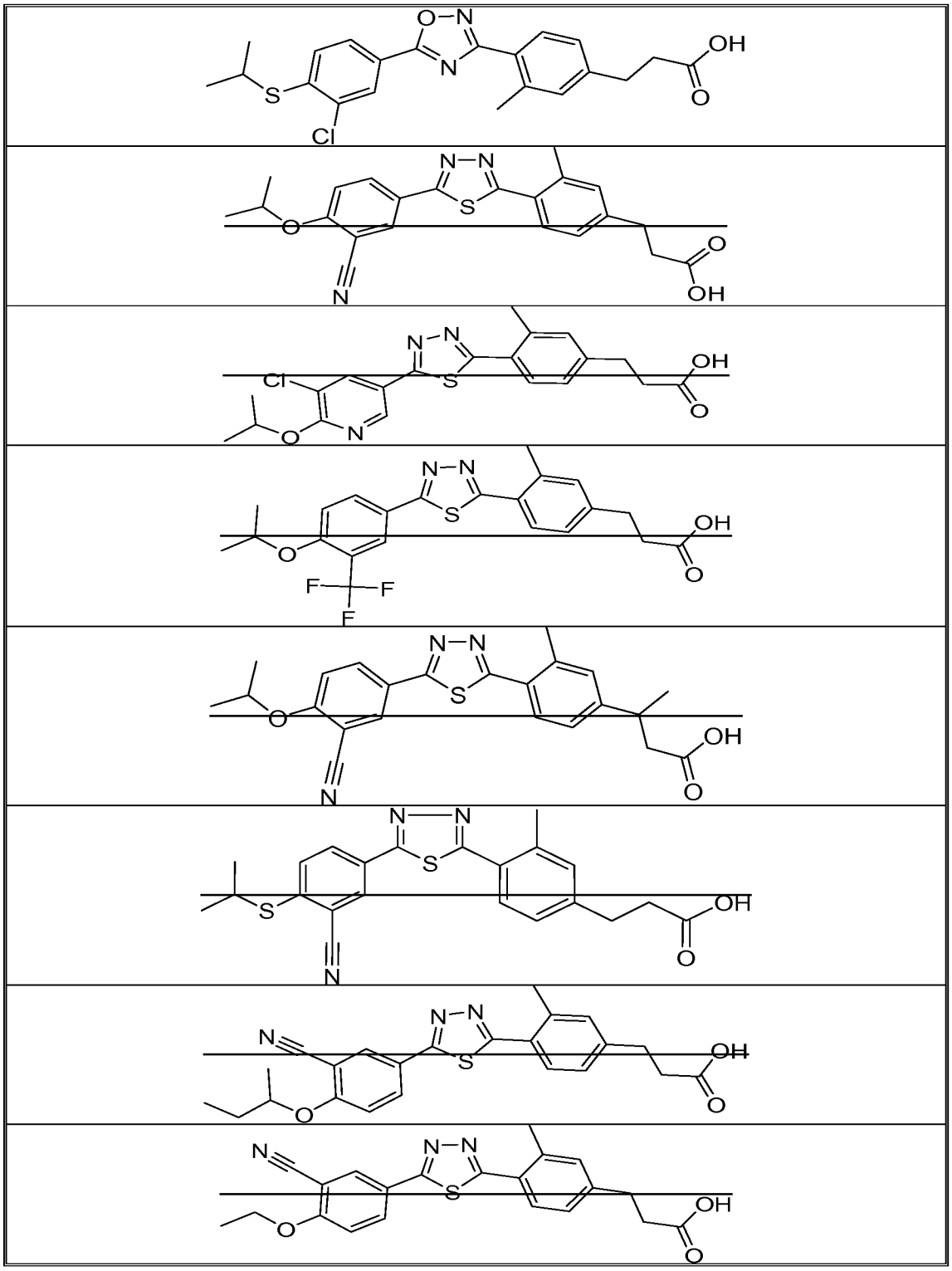
	1-trifluoromethyl ethoxy					
68	2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	Me	H
~~69~~	~~*i*-PrO-~~	~~-CN~~	~~-CH=~~	~~=N-~~	~~H~~	~~H~~
~~70~~	~~2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy~~	~~-CN~~	~~-N=~~	~~=N-~~	~~H~~	~~H~~
~~71~~	~~2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy~~	~~-CN~~	~~-CH=~~	~~=N-~~	~~H~~	~~H~~
~~72~~	~~2,2,2-trifluoro-1-trifluoromethyl ethoxy~~	~~-CN~~	~~-CH=~~	~~=N-~~	~~H~~	~~H~~
~~73~~	~~2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy~~	~~-CN~~	~~-CH=~~	~~=N-~~	~~Me~~	~~H~~
~~74~~	~~2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methylethoxy~~	~~-CN~~	~~-N=~~	~~=N-~~	~~Me~~	~~H~~
75	*i*-PrO-	-CF_3	-CH=	=CH-	H	H
79	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	OH	OH
80	*i*-PrO-	-CN	-CH=	=CH-	OH	OH

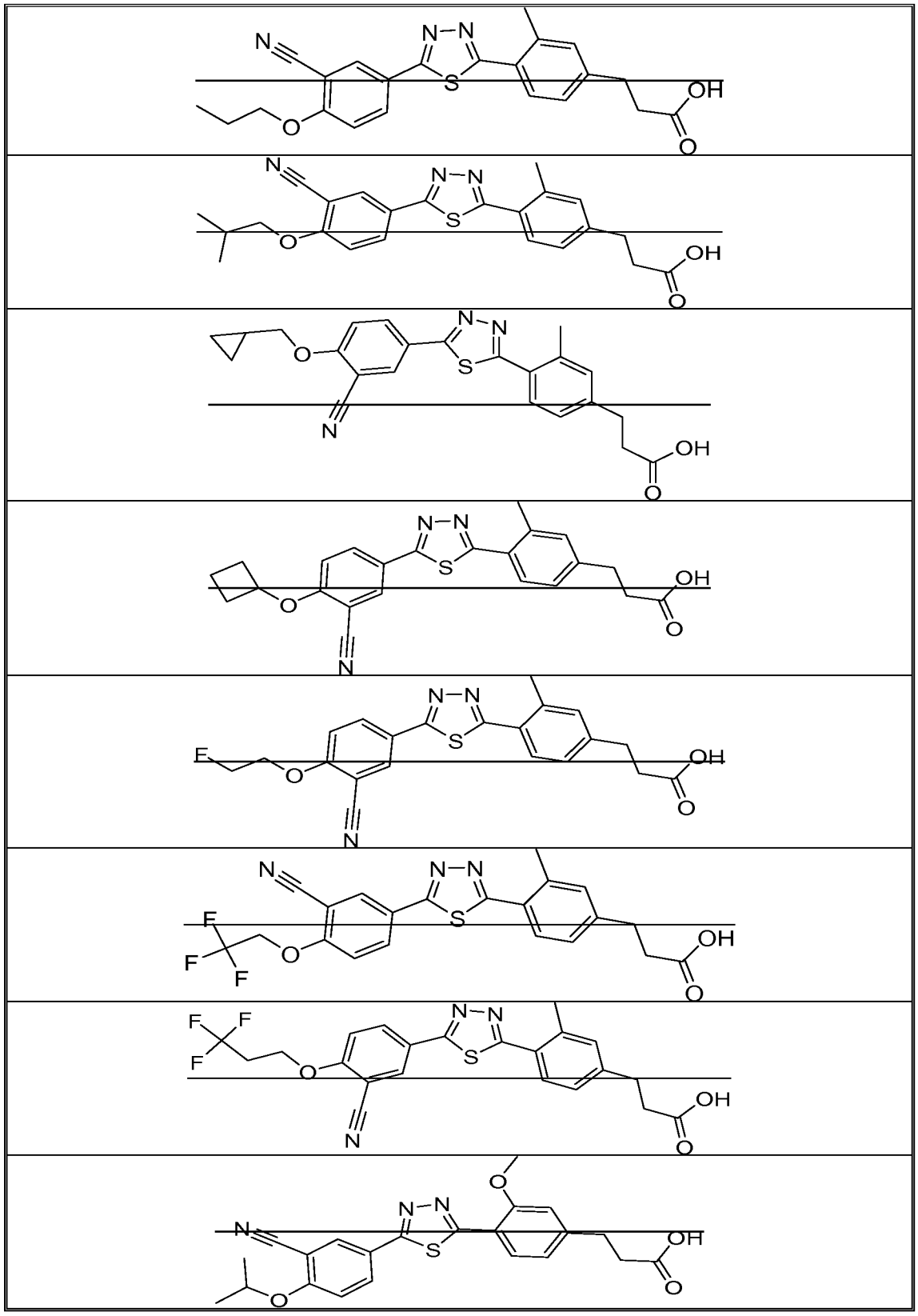
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the compounds above.

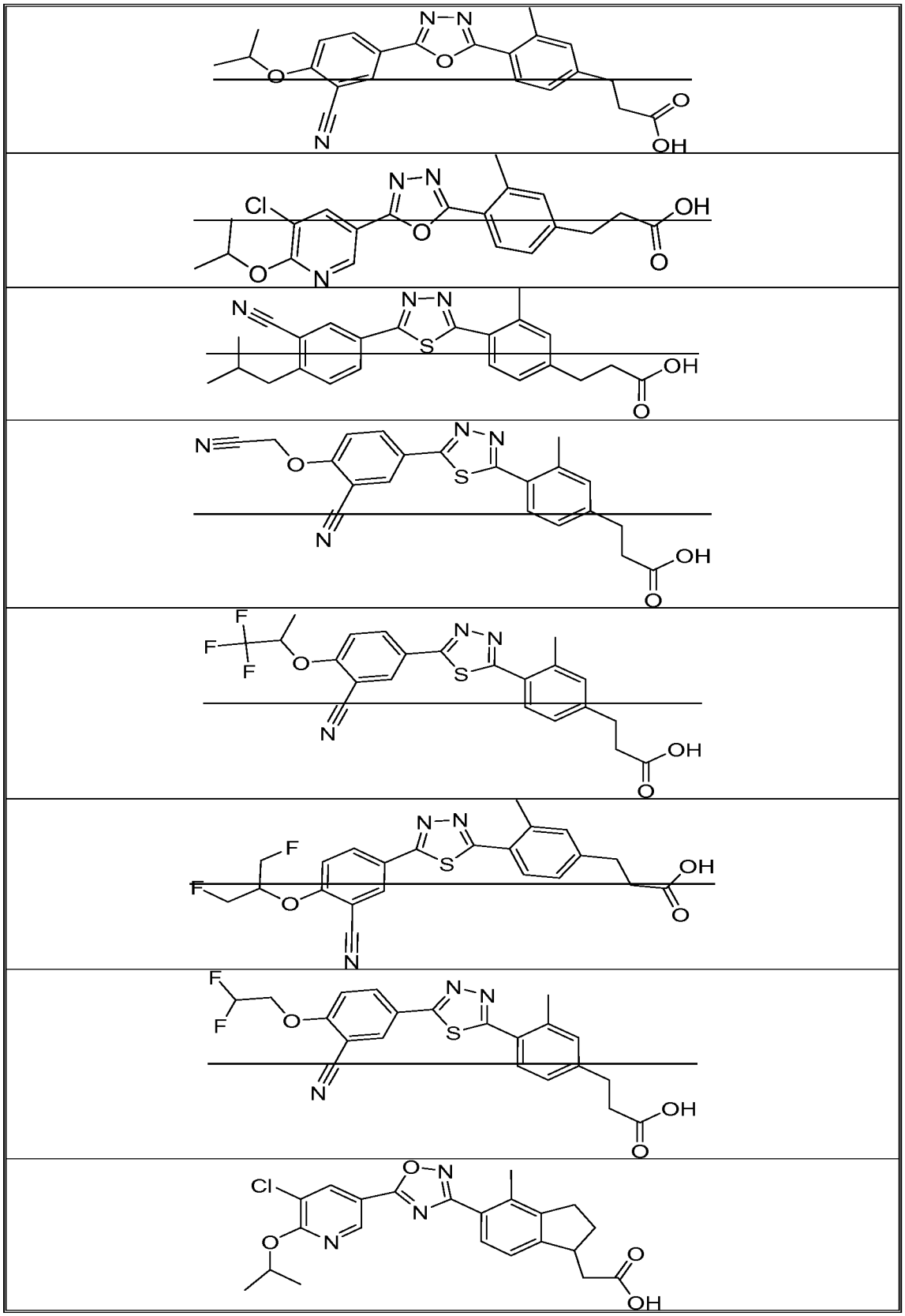
11. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 2 selected from the following table:

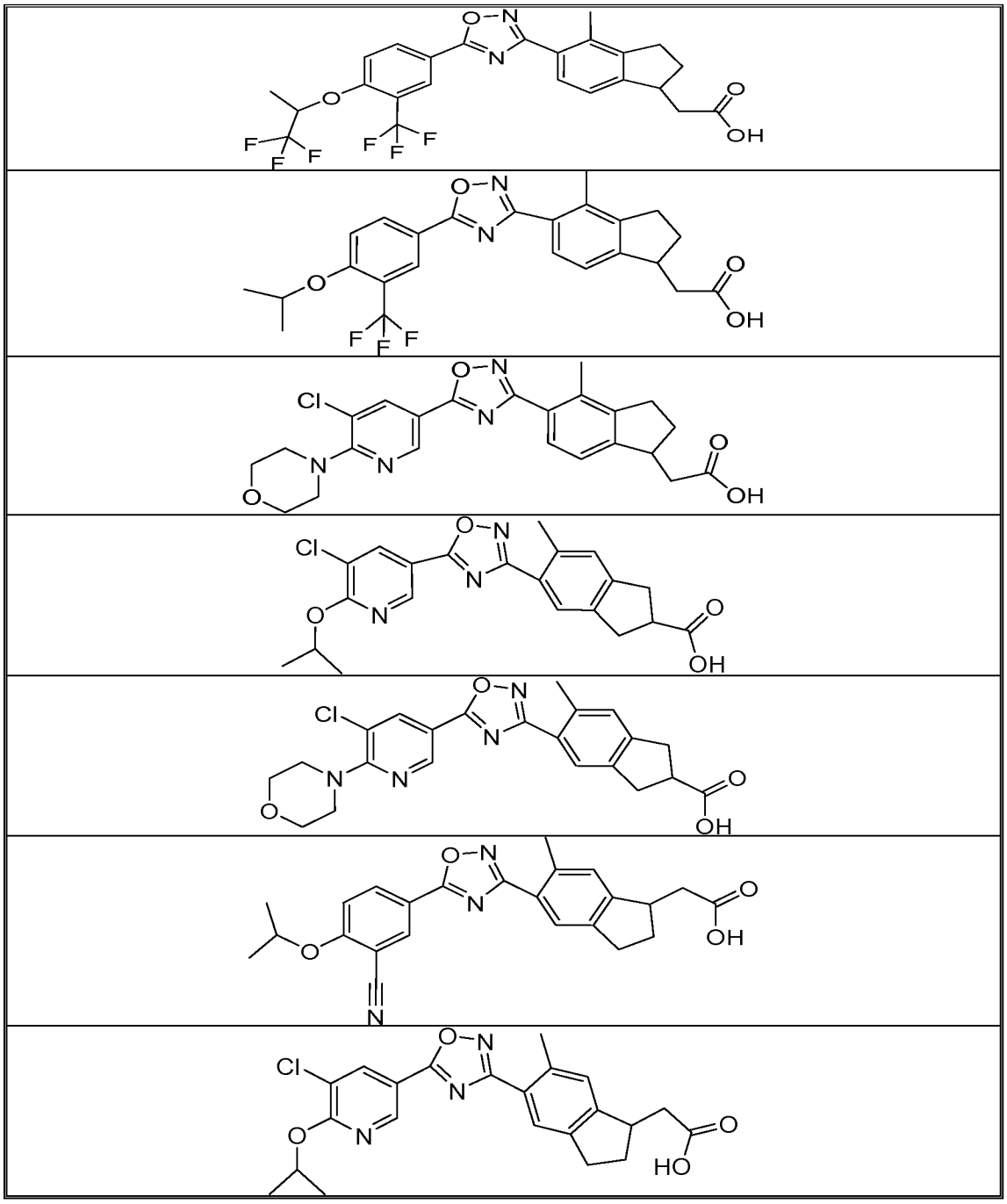












or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the compounds above.

12. (Canceled)

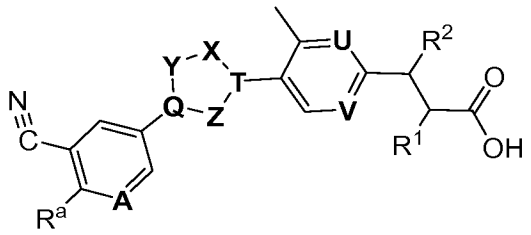
13 - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprised of a compound in accordance with Claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19 - 23. (Canceled)

24 - 25. (Canceled)

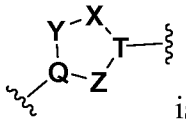
26. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 of Formula Ig:

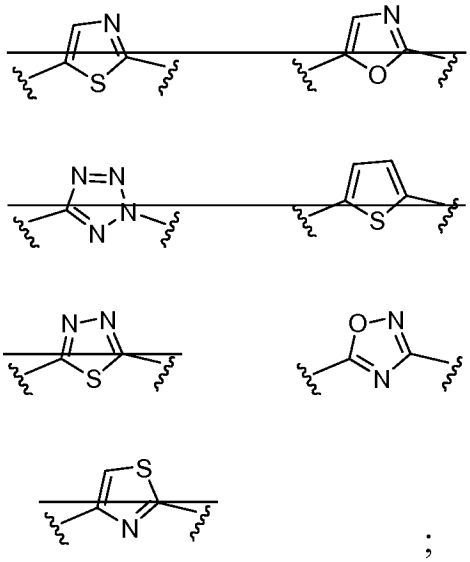


Ig

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

A is selected from –N- or –CH-;

the group  is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~:



;

R^1 and R^2 are -H, or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form cyclopropyl;

U and **V** are $-C(R^9)-$;

each R^9 is -H, or

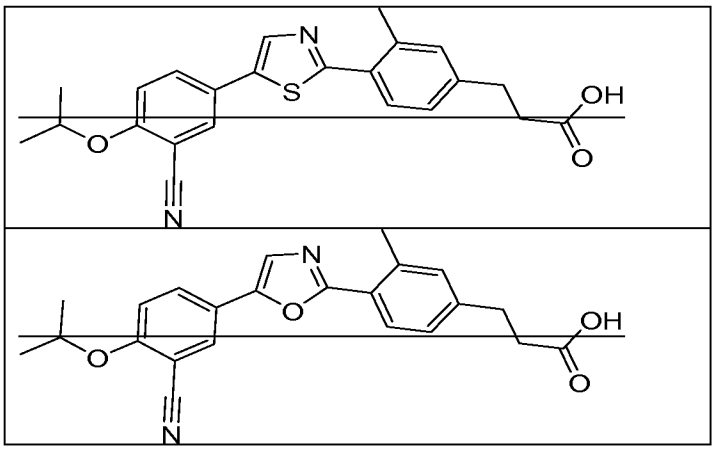
For **U** or **V**, R^9 and R^1 or R^9 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a 5 membered ring, thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of 9 atoms with the phenyl ring to which R^9 is attached;

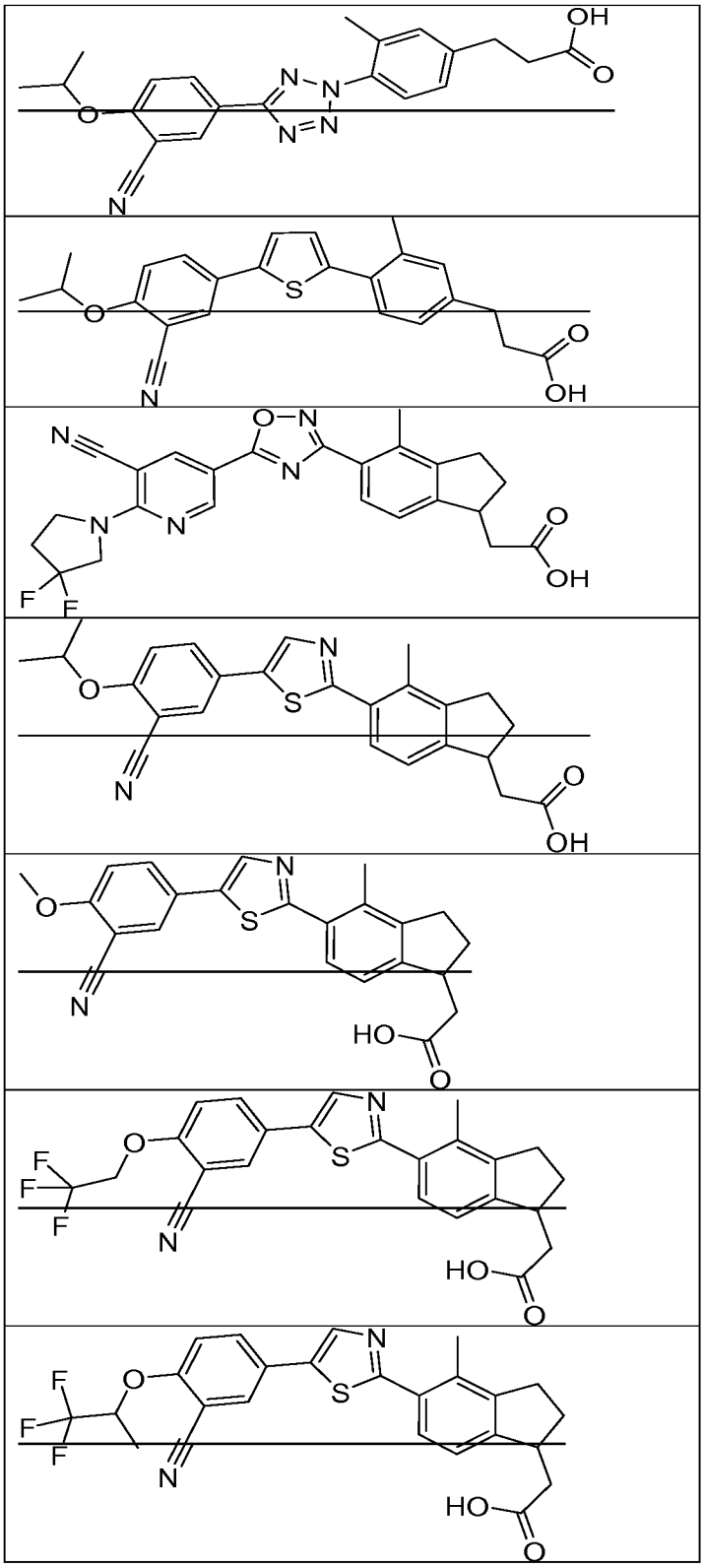
R^a is selected from the group consisting of: thienyl, NR^7R^8, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy and C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy and C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with fluoro;

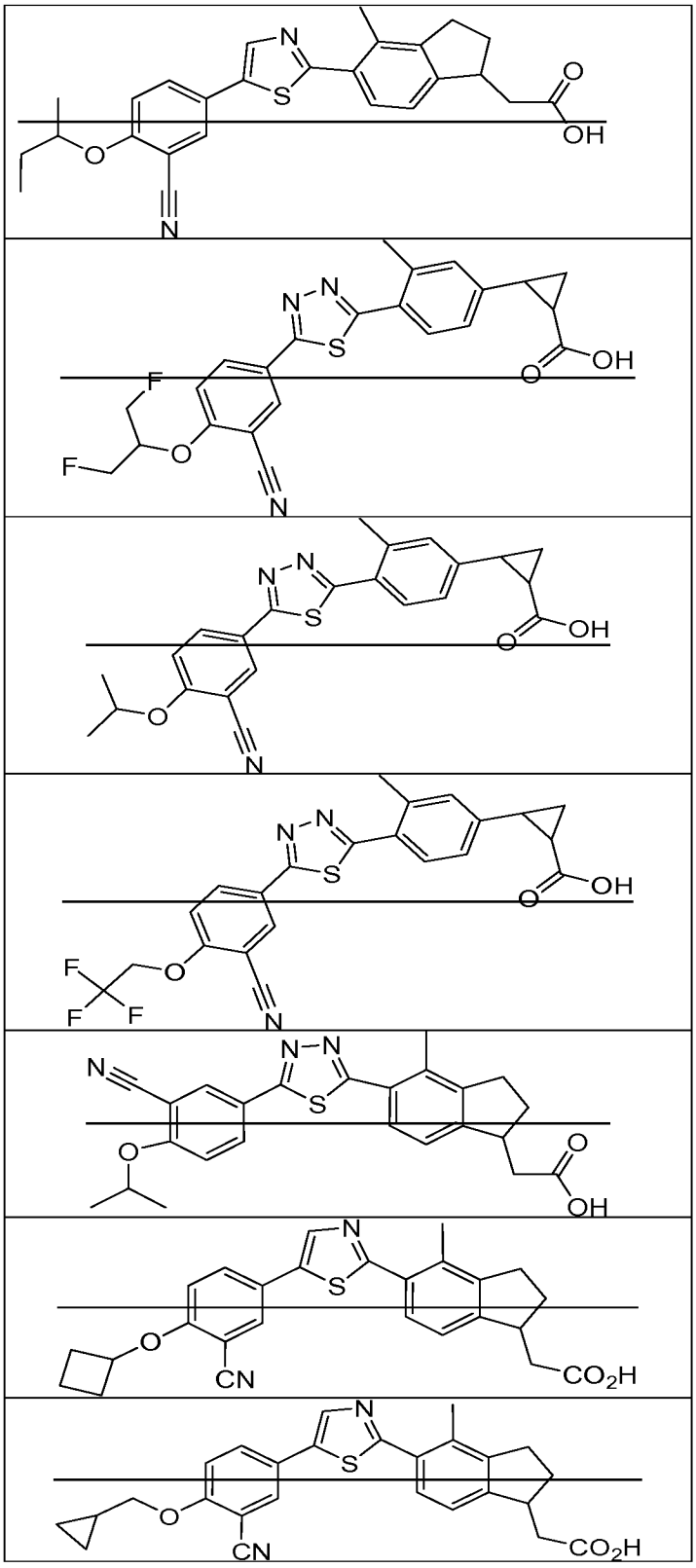
R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to three flouro groups, and

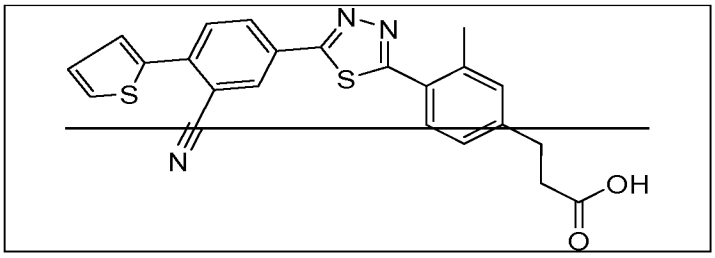
R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three fluoro groups.

27. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 26 selected from the group consisting of:



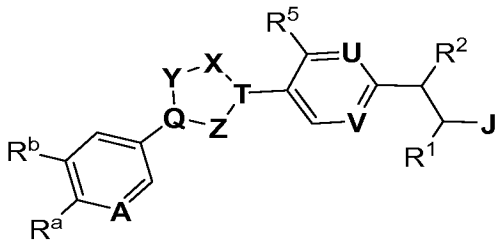






or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the above.

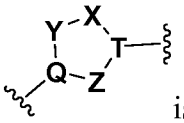
28. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 of Formula Ih:

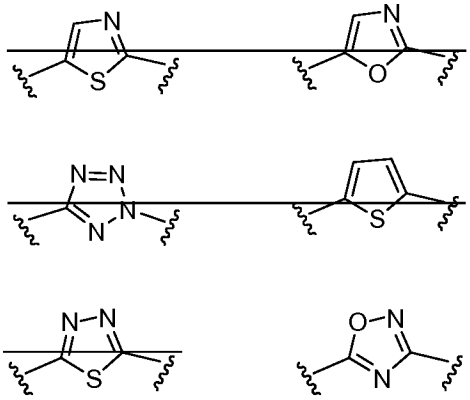


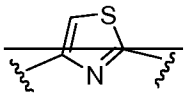
Ih

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

A is selected from –N- or –CH-;

the group  is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~:





;

R^1 and R^2 are -H, or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form cyclopropyl;

R^5 is –H or $–CH_3$;

U and **V** are $–C(R^9)$-;

each R^9 is -H, or

For **U** or **V**, R^9 and R^1 or R^9 and R^2 may be joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a 5 membered ring, thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of 9 atoms with the phenyl ring to which R^9 is attached;

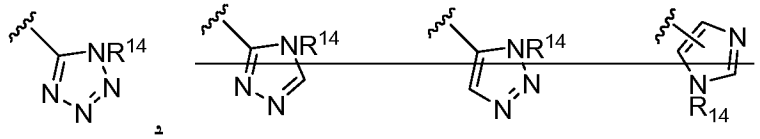
R^a is selected from the group consisting of: -F, NR^7R^8, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy and C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy, wherein said C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy and C_{3-6}cycloalkoxy are each optionally substituted from one up to the maximum number of substitutable positions with fluoro;

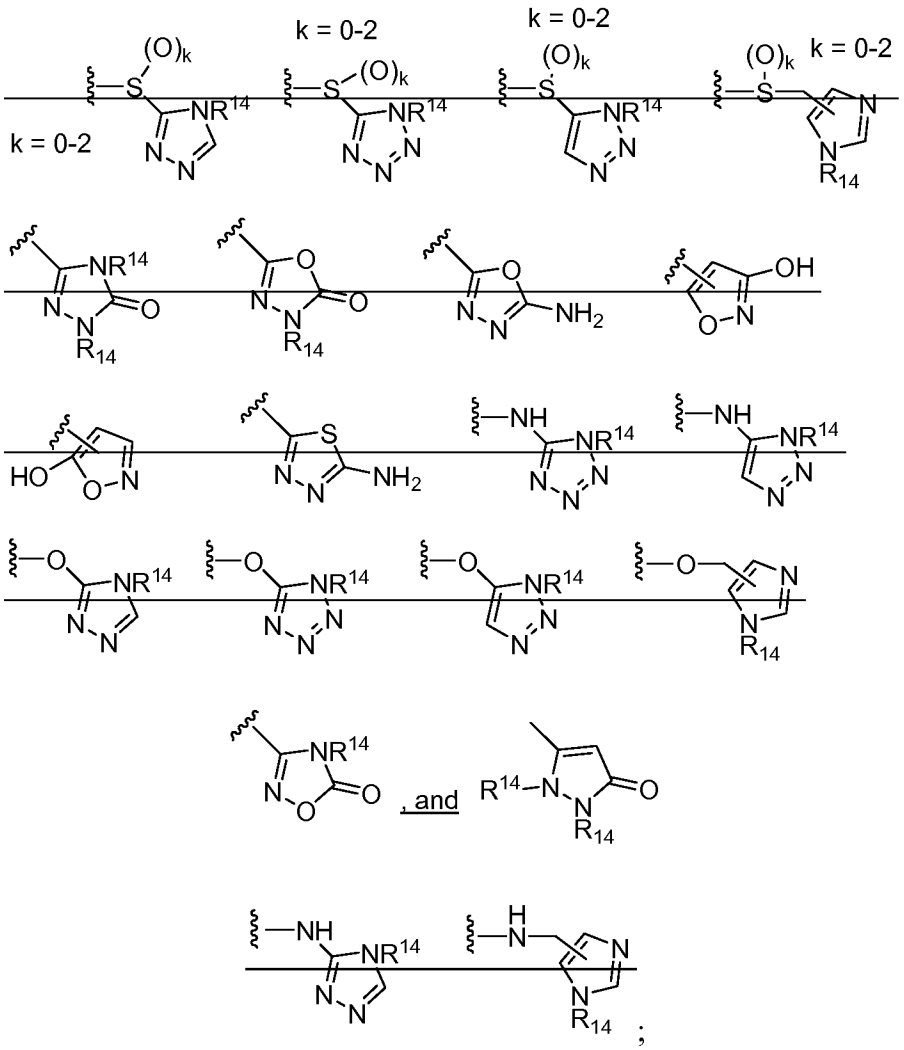
R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and C_{1-6}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to three flouro groups, and

R^7 and R^8 may be joined together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a saturated monocyclic ring of 3 to 8 atoms, said ring is optionally substituted with one to three fluoro groups;

R^b is Cl or I;

J is selected from the group consisting of: $-CO_2H$, ~~$-PO_3H_2$, $-PO_2H_2$, $-SO_3H$, $-CONHSO_2R^{13}$, $-PO(R^{13})OH$,~~





~~R^{13} is selected from the group consisting of: C_1-C_4 alkyl, phenyl, $-CH_2OH$ and CH(OH) phenyl;~~ and

each R^{14} is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and $-CH_3$.

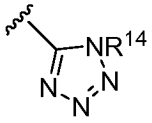
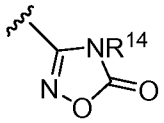
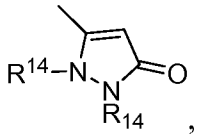
29. (Original) A compound according to Claim 28, wherein:

For **U**, R^9 and R^1 are joined together with the atoms to which they are attached to form a 5 membered ring, thus forming a fused partially aromatic bicyclic ring system of 9 atoms with the phenyl ring to which R^9 is attached;

R^5 is CH_3;

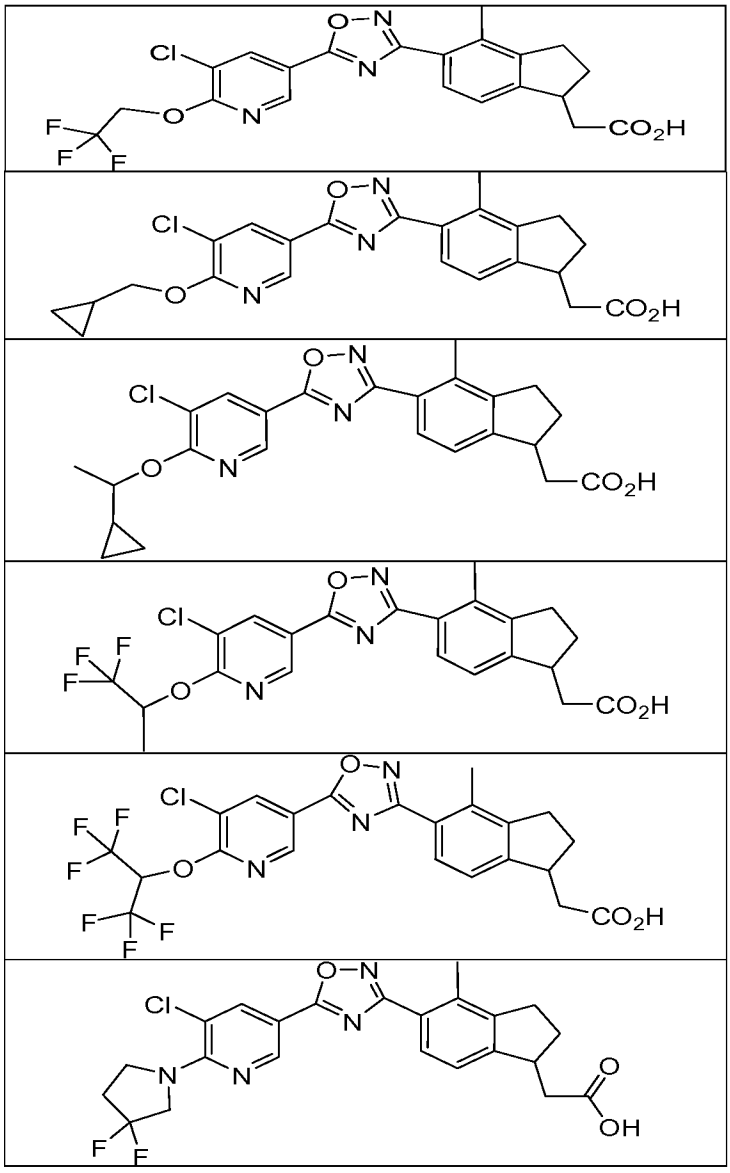
R^b is Cl; and

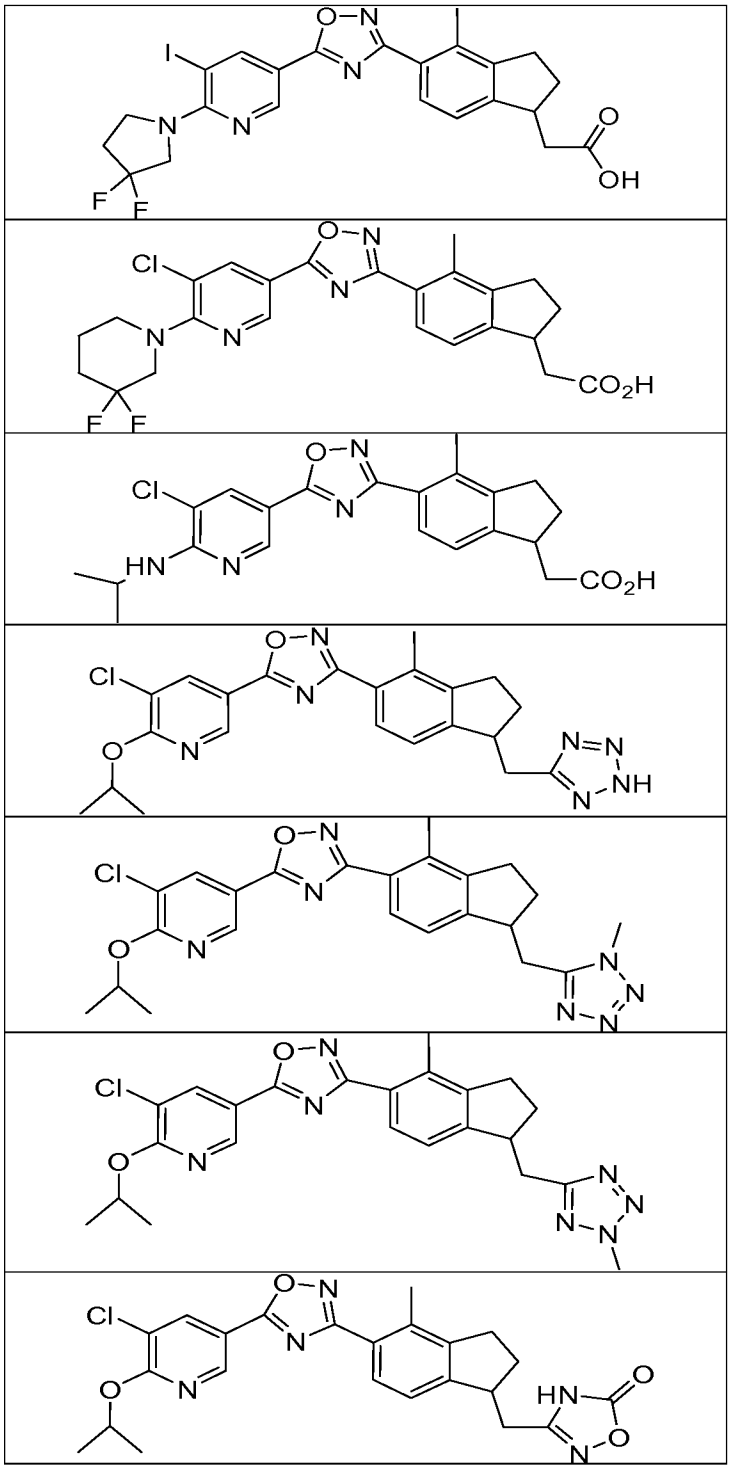
J is selected from the group consisting of: $-CO_2H$,

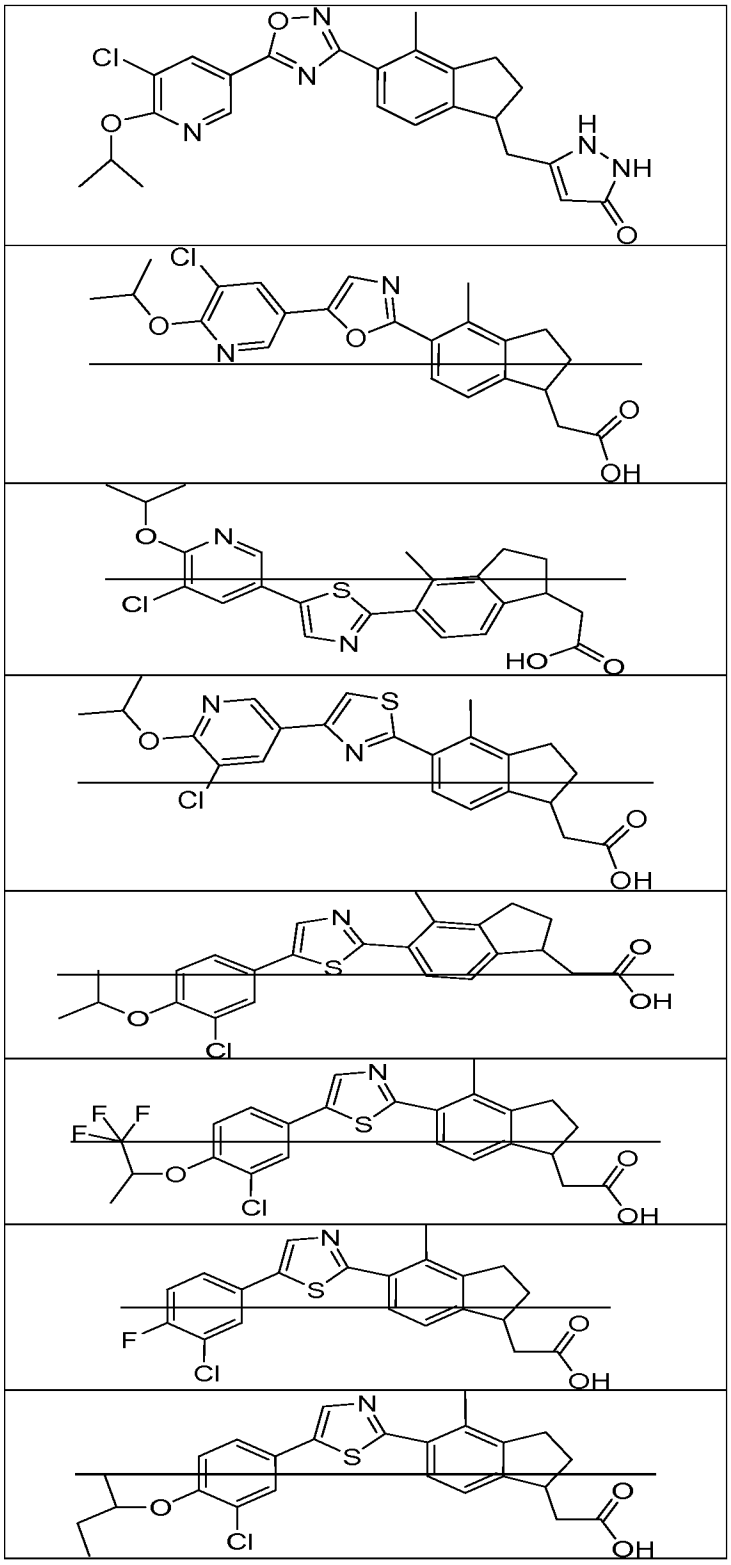




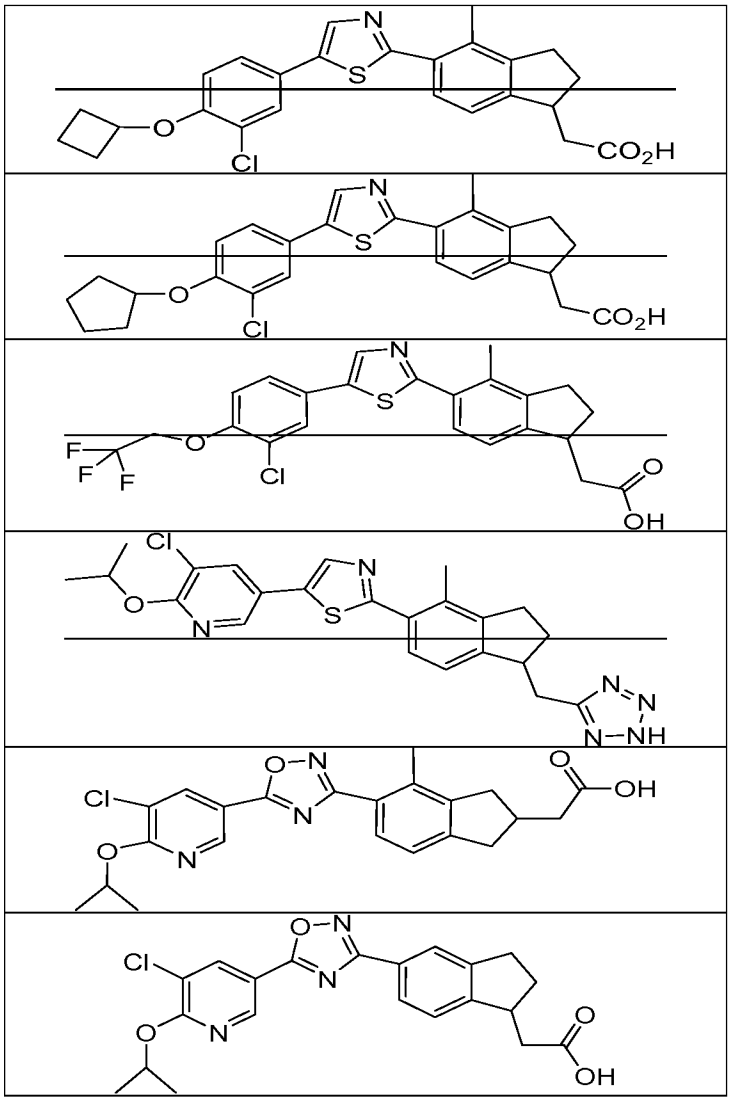
, wherein each R^{14} is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H and $-CH_3$.

30. (Currently amended) A compound according to Claim 28 selected from the group consisting of:









or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the above.